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SENSITIVE

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SUBJECT: NEW AMBASSADORIAL APPOINTMENTS FOR THE NEW
YEAR

Sensitive but unclassified. Please protect
accordingly.

SUMMARY

1. (SBU) President Kocharian recently announced two new ambassadorial appointments, naming Ashot Hovakimian Ambassador to Austria (replacing Jivan Tabibian) and Ashot Galoyan as Ambassador to Poland (replacing Ashot Hovakimian). (Note: While the presidential proclamation does not explicitly identify Hovakimian as the new Permanent Representative to the OSCE, we expect that Hovakimian will replace Tabibian in that position as well. End Note.) End Summary.

OFFICIAL BIO NOTES FOR HOVAKIMIAN

2. (SBU) Ashot Hovakimyan was born on November 16, 1961 in Yerevan.

In 1983 he graduated from the philological department of the Moscow State University (Lomonosov), majoring in Slavonic languages.

In 1987 he finished the post-graduate school of USSR Academy of Sciences studying the science of Slavonic languages and History of Balkans. His PhD thesis was on Armenian-South-Slavonic culture and literature connections at the end of the 18th century to the beginning of the 20th century.

From 1988-1992 he was the employee of the Literature Institute of Academy of Science of Republic of Armenia (RA).

Starting from 1992 he was the Deputy Secretary of European Affairs of the National Academy of Science of RA.

From 1993 to 1996 he was the Charge d'Affairs of Armenian Embassy in Greece, and later became the First Secretary.

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From 1996 to 1998 he was the Head of the second European Section representing European Affairs in the National Academy of Science of RA.

From July to November 1998 he was the Assistant to the Head of National Academy of Science.

Starting from April 1998 he became the Charge d'Affairs of the Armenian Embassy in Lebanon.

In 1999 he became the Ambassador of Armenia to Lebanon, and in 2000 combined the position with becoming the Ambassador of Armenia in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia.

He has written two scientific works, and roughly 60 scientific and political articles, has participated in various international conferences.

He speaks English, Russian, Serbian, Croatian, Polish and Greek.

Married, has a son and a daughter.

OFFICIAL BIO NOTES FOR GALOYAN

3. (SBU) Ashot Galoyan was born in Vanadzor in 1956.

He graduated from the Yerevan State University (Faculty of History), then Post-graduate course. Candidate of Historical Sciences.

From 1979-82 he worked as Assistant to the Rector of Yerevan State University.

From 1982-85 Secretary to Yerevan State University Komsomol Committee.

From 1985-88 Lecturer in Yerevan State University, Faculty of History.

From 1987-88 (on an IREX project) he was a lecturer and researcher in Michigan and California Universities.

From 1993-95 Fulbright lecturer at UCLA Political Sciences Department.

From 1995-97 Professor in History and Political Sciences Department of UCLA.

In 1997 Senior Lecturer at the American University in Armenia.

From 1989 to present, Associate Professor at the State University, Professor of Yerevan's H.Acharyan University.

From 1999-2003 National Assembly Deputy, Member of the Committee on Foreign Relations. Starting from 2001 Armenian Delegation Member in EU.

In 2003 Adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. He has published 30 articles as well as a handbook dedicated to events in the Caucasus during the 19th and 20th centuries.

Languages: English, Russian and Armenia

Married, has three sons.

GODFREY